



TL1459

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR OVERSEAS AID
(INCORPORATED IN THE ACT)

ACFOA HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE
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15 June 1989

Memo: re East Timor
To: George Atkin, DFAT Canberra
From: Pat Walsh
Status: confidential/sources to be protected
Request: as below

1. Re reports of arrests in Baucau (see Memo of 8/6/89 para 2):
Timorese student sources in Jakarta allege:
 - * that arrests commenced in Baucau on 5 May and are continuing;
 - * that 40 have so far been detained;
 - * that military under Col. Prabowo's command made the arrests;
 - * that the detainees are being held at a new detention centre at Baucau airport;
 - * that the detentions relate to Bishop Belo's 'referendum' letter to the United Nations and the detainees' alleged clandestine activities in support of the resistance.

2. Timorese student sources in Jakarta advised on 14 June 1989 that on 8 June 1989, at 9.15 am, a Timorese university student Elias Pereira Moniz, was arrested in Bali by military in plain clothes believed to be answerable to Col. Prabowo.

Moniz is about 29 and has been studying APK (?) at one of the universities in Bali. His present whereabouts are unknown.

It is speculated that he has been arrested following disclosure of his name by detainees in Baucau.

Five other Timorese students are said to have fled from Bali to avoid arrest. They are students from the Universities of Udayana and Nogurari.

3. Request: that these reports be investigated and, if substantiated that official representations be made to the Indonesian authorities seeking assurance that any detainees will not be tortured, that their rights and welfare will be fully protected, that they will be given access to family and independent lawyers, and be charged and tried or immediately released.

Ends

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